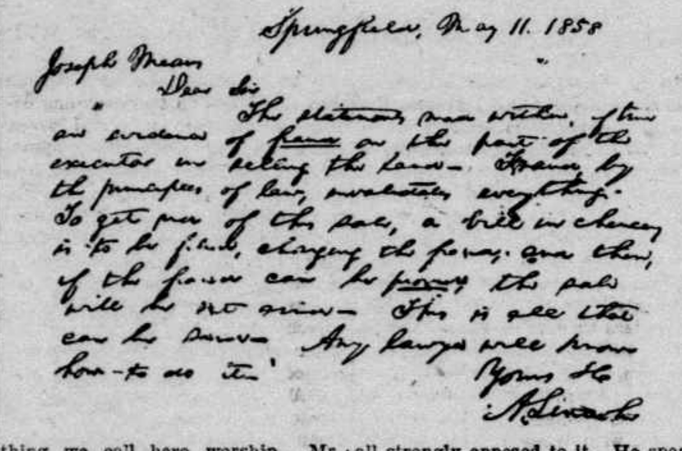
Rambling in Lincolniana

LINCOLNIANA is a subject independent of mere timeliness. Interest in the great emancipator is not confined to February 12 or the week preceding that date. Before the writer are two Lincoln books; a new edition of Ida M. Tarbell's "He Knew Lincoln and Other Billy Brown Stories"; and "Lincoln, the Greatest Man in the Nineteenth Century," by Charles Reynolds Brown, dean of the Divinity School of Yale University; also two illustrations, one of which is from the *Columbia Jester*, and the other a hitherto unpublished letter, which is here printed by the courtesy of Mrs. Rena H. Barickman.

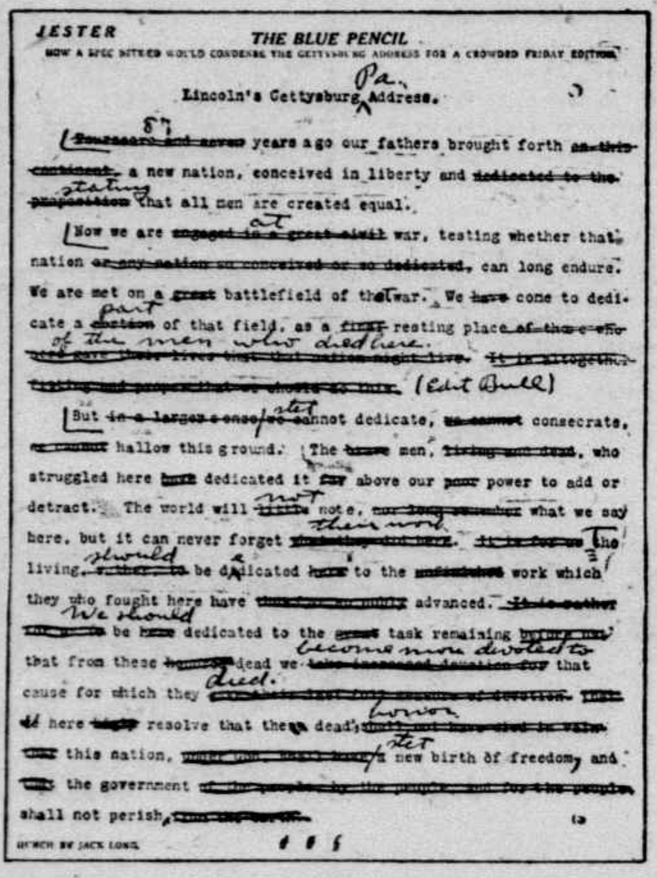
The original of Billy Brown, says Miss Tarbell in the introduction to the new edition of her book, "was still keeping his drug store in Springfield in the 90s, when the writer made studies there for a 'Life of Lincoln.' She passed many an hour in Lincoln's chair, while Billy, tipped back in something less precious, talked. There were Billy Browns in other towns—Bloomington, Princeton, Quincy, Chicago. Their memory of Mr. Lincoln was among the precious and satisfying things in their lives. When business was dull or the day rainy and consequently there were few or no interruptions, the talk you started by questions soon became a soliloquy. Head against the wall, feet on desk, they revived the old friendship. Their memories were tender, reverent, but singularly devoid of the thing we call hero worship. Mr. Lincoln remained too real to them, too interesting and companionable."


Springfield, May 11. 1858
Joseph Means
Dear Sir
The statements made within, show an evidence of fraud on the part of the executor in selling the land— Fraud, by the principles of law, invalidates everything. To get rid of the sale, a bill in chancery is to be filed, charging the fraud; and then, if the fraud can be proved the sale will be set aside— This is all that can be done. Any lawyer will know how to do it.
Yours &c
A. Lincoln

Dr. Brown recalls the splendid audacity of Lincoln in an anecdote: "There was a certain measure in which the President believed strongly. He brought it one afternoon into a Cabinet meeting. He found that his Secretaries, to the last man, were all strongly opposed to it. He spent considerable time in explaining it and seeking to bring them to his way of thinking, but apparently without much effect. The time came, however, when a vote had to be taken. Lincoln put the motion: 'All those in favor will say Aye.' The Secretaries sat there silent. 'All those opposed will say No.' Every man instantly voted a stout, strong 'No.' There came a look of disappointment in the President's face and then a twinkle in his eye. After a significant pause he remarked: 'The Ayes seem to have it. The motion is carried.'"

The story of the hitherto unpublished Lincoln letter is as follows: In May, 1858, Joseph Means, a farmer residing near Eureka, Ill., journeyed to Bloomington to attend to some business in the interest of his recently widowed daughter, Mrs. Mary Means Meek, who resided with him. Learning of certain complications involving his daughter's property, Mr. Means, under date of May 3, addressed a letter to Abraham Lincoln explaining the difficulties and requesting advice. With characteristic informality Attorney Lincoln wrote his reply on the reverse side of his correspondent's letter.

The illustration taken from the *Columbia Jester*, speaks for itself. Occasionally such undergraduate publications as the *Jester*, the *Harvard Lampoon*, the *Princeton Tiger*, the *Cornell Widow*, and the *Yale Record* achieve humor of a really high order. The *Jester's* skit strikes the copy reader of limited imagination, but beyond that it carries a message of deeper significance to the Gradgrindes of the world.


JESTER THE BLUE PENCIL
HOW A DESK EDITOR WOULD CONDENSE THE GETTYSBURG ADDRESS FOR A CROWDED FRIDAY EDITION

Lincoln's Gettysburg Pa. Address.

87 years ago our fathers brought forth a new nation, conceived in liberty and stating that all men are created equal.

Now we are at war, testing whether that nation can long endure. We are met on a battlefield of the war. We come to dedicate a part of that field, as a resting place of the men who died here. (Edit Bull)

But we can not dedicate, consecrate, hallow this ground. The men, who struggled here dedicated it above our power to add or detract. The world will not note, what we say here, but it can never forget their work. The living, should be dedicated to the work which they who fought here have advanced. We should be dedicated to the task remaining that from these dead we become more devoted to that cause for which they died. We here resolve that these dead honor this nation, get a new birth of freedom, and the government shall not perish.

SKETCH BY JACK LONG

Princess Mary's Wedding Books

BOOKS made up one-tenth of the wedding presents of Princess Mary, according to the official list printed in the London *Times*. The following list may be of interest to the readers of THE HERALD:

Tennyson's Works (9 volumes).
History of Lace.
Life of Kitchener (3 volumes).
Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam.
Jacob Maris.
Wild Animals of South Africa.
History of Royal Residences (2 volumes).
Travels in Italy.
Furniture in England (2 volumes).
Encyclopædia of Sport (4 volumes).
History of Craven.
History of Harewood.
Seven Reference Books (in case).
British Sport Past and Present.
Private Palaces of London.
Campaign of Waterloo.
The Horse.
Prayer Books.
Church Hymnal (2 volumes).
Rudolph Christen.
Queen Mary.
Poems by Robert Burns.
Homer's Odyssey.
Being and Doing.
Bibles.
The Romaunt of the Rose.
Times Atlas of the World.
The Apocrypha.
Fighting at Jutland.
The Lely and Stuart Portrait Painters (2 volumes).
Far to Seek.
Fragonard.
History of Norfolk (12 volumes).
British Floral Decorations.
History of Architecture.
Poems of Rupert Brooke.
Witch of Knaresborough.
Books Illuminated and Translated by Miss Goldsburgh.
Botanical Magazine (13 volumes).
Birds One Should Know.
Chronology of the War (3 volumes).
The Redmans of Leven and Harewood.
Jane Austen's Novels (12 volumes).
Wild Birds in Their Haunts.
Study of Criticisms of Italian Art.
Thorburn's Naturalist Sketch Book.
British Birds (4 volumes).
Oxford Book of Ballads.
Old Spanish Masters.
Van Eycks and Their Followers.
Destiny of America.
Amusements of Old London (2 volumes).
Oxford Book of English Verse.
History of Eton College, 1440-1910.
Book of Wedding Days.
Hogarth's Works (3 volumes).
Channel Islands.
English Interiors.
Records of the Royal Scots.
Ordnance Maps (in leather case).
Reynard the Fox.
Beautiful Flowers and How to Grow Them.
Royal Palaces and Gardens.
Kipling's Works (28 volumes).
Thirty-five Years in the New Forest.
Browning's Works.
Roxburgh Club (1 volume).
In the Garden of Peace.
Windy Ridge.
Book of Job.
Thackeray's Novels (13 volumes).
Set of Reference Books.
Some British Ballads.
Life of Johannes Brahms (2 volumes).
Trees and Shrubs (2 volumes).
Roll Call of Westminster Abbey.
History of English Furniture (2 volumes).
Thomas Gainsborough.
John Hoppner.
Driving.
Life of Admiral Mahan.
Tennyson's Works (12 volumes).
Daily Light.
Poetry of Francis Thompson.
Story of Royal Scots.
Her Ladyship.
Wilton House Pictures (2 volumes).
Life and Works of Osias Humphrey.
Sport of Our Ancestors.
Gardens: Their Form and Design.
History of China Porcelain (2 volumes).